

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks made herewith, which are believed to place the application into condition for allowance, or in better condition for appeal. Examiner Mah is thanked for removing the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph.

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application and were rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,698,061 (hereinafter “the ‘061 patent”) in view of Markward (U.S. Patent No. 2,705,385; “Markward”). In particular, the ‘061 patent allegedly discloses the invention as claimed, but for the receiving means attached to the coupling means. Markward allegedly teaches a curtain hook having a receiving means for supporting an object. The Office Action contends that it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify the hook described in the ‘061 patent with the receiving means formed in the coupling means as taught by Markward to support an object for convenience in use.

Although Applicants believe the present invention is patentably distinct from the ‘061 patent, in order to advance prosecution, Applicants have submitted herewith a Terminal Disclaimer as the ‘061 patent. The sole inventor of the ‘061 patent is the same inventive entity of the instant application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

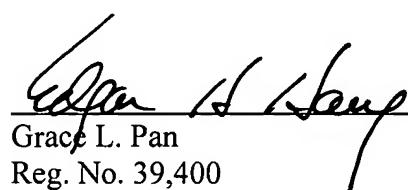
Further, Applicants respectfully request addition and recognition of Thomas J. Kowalski, Registration No. 32,147, FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10151, telephone (212) 588-0800; facsimile (212) 588-0500; as an attorney of record relating to the instant application. It is respectfully submitted that Applicants do not wish to replace the undersigned, but simply request the recognition of Thomas J. Kowalski as an additional attorney of record.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the claims in this application are patentable, and early and favorable consideration thereof, and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance, is earnestly solicited. If however, there is still an outstanding issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for its prompt attention.

Respectfully submitted,
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